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**BOX AF**

AF/1807

-- PATENT APPLICATION --

-- Attorney Docket No. 25,835.11 --

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M. L. Collins, et al.

Serial No.: 08/238,080

Filing Date: May 3, 1994

Title: TARGET AND BACKGROUND CAPTURE  
METHODS WITH AMPLIFICATION FOR  
AFFINITY ASSAYS

Art Unit: 1807

Examiner: Dianne Rees

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING & FACSIMILE RESPONSE

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
sent via facsimile to: Dianne Rees, at facsimile  
number (703) 305-7401, and is being deposited  
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Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the  
date shown below.

LESLIE B. HENSON

(Printed Name)

Leslie B. Henson

(Signature)

May 27, 1997

(Date of Deposit)

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

**RECEIVED**

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUN 2 1997

GROUP 1800

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 51-52.

Please amend claims 53-54 as follows:

27 53. (Amended) A method for amplifying a target polynucleotide contained in a sample medium comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting the sample medium with reagent comprising a first nucleic acid probe which binds to the target to form a probe-target complex;  
(b) contacting the sample medium with a support which binds to the first nucleic acid probe of the probe-target complex;